

CDBG SURVEY YEAR: 11

SURVEY NO.: B-1417

AREA: Middle East Vicinity

MAGI NO.: 0414178504

ADDRESS: 208 North Duncan Street

CURRENT NAME:

BLOCK:

LOT:

LOT SIZE:

HEIGHT: 2

MATERIALS: Brick

CONDITION: Fair

OWNER:

USE: Vacant dwelling

ADDRESS:

DESIGNATION:

ACCESSIBLE:

LIBER/FOLIO:



HISTORIC NAME:

DATE: ca. 1875

ARCHITECT/BUILDER:

STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE):

**DESCRIPTION:** 208 North Duncan Street, a two bay, two story brick rowhouse with a slightly raised basement, is located in east Baltimore, Maryland, between Patterson Park and the Johns Hopkins Hospital, south and east of the Middle East Planning District and north of the Washington Hill-Chapel Planning District. Duncan is a narrow alley street situated between Chester and Collington Streets. 208 is on the west side, at the southern end of the block, one house north of the intersection of Duncan and Wapping Alley. The dwelling is covered in formstone, as are all seven of the houses in the row. The windows and door have all either been removed or are boarded over. The openings all appear intact. The windows were probably 1 over 1. The first floor windows, the basement windows, and the front door all have splayed formstone lintels with a central keystone. The second floor lintels are arched single pieces of formstone. The front door appears to have a transom, although it is covered at this time. The cornice is one of three remaining in the row. It is wood with a decorative cutout pattern and two small wood brackets. The front steps are concrete. There is a sally-port between 208 and the connecting northern house.

**SIGNIFICANCE:**

AREA: Architecture

LEVEL: Local

208 North Duncan Street is an alley rowhouse that was built as working class or lower income housing. It demonstrates that the rowhouse was a building form used by all classes of people in Baltimore. Social prestige was determined not by house type, but by street size and location. 208 North Duncan Street is eligible for the National Register within the context of its neighborhood, a district of undetermined boundaries. The area surrounding the 200 block of Duncan Street grew as the result of the natural urban expansion of the settlements of Fells Point and Baltimore Town, along the street plans developed by Poppleton in 1823. Because this area was not a planned community of any type, a neighborhood of mixed housing developed, with different social and economic levels living within close proximity to each other, in the same type of dwelling, separated by a street hierarchy. There is no sign of development in the 200 block of Duncan Street on either of the Poppleton maps. The 1869 Sachse Bird's Eye View of Baltimore also shows no development on the block and Duncan Street does not appear to be laid out. The block, however, is being encircled by housing.

**SOURCES:** Poppleton Map of Baltimore 1823 and 1851, Sachse Bird's Eye View of Baltimore of 1869

**SURVEYOR AND DATE:** Mary K. Mannix, October 1986



208 North Duncan  
Street  
B-1417

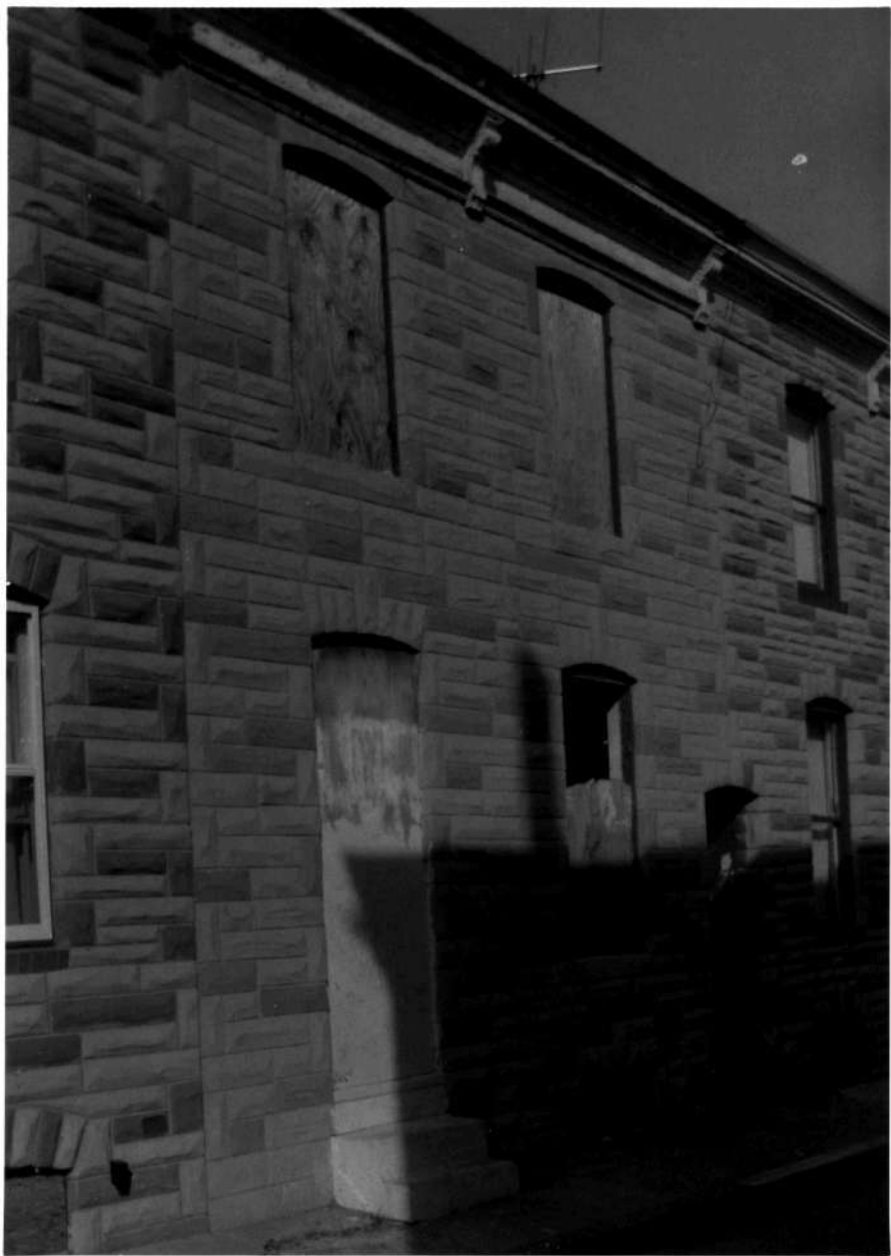
# WASHINGTON HILL-CHAPEL NDP

 PLANNING DIVISION  
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



BALTIMORE, MD. XD





Rowhouse B-1417  
208 North Duncan Street  
Baltimore (City), Maryland  
Photo: Janet L. Davis  
Date: October 1986  
Neg. Loc.: Maryland Historical Trust  
East elevation  
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